

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1A

COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Polish Uniforms and Insignia	DATE DISTR.	4 May 1953
	25X1C	NO. OF PAGES	9
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

## 25X1X Summer and Winter Uniforms for Officers and EM

1. Officers of the 43rd WOP Bn were issued two dress uniforms, both of wool gabardine material; one for summer wear, and one for winter wear. The winter EM dress uniform was of wool, and the summer, of cotton.  
[See Annex A and B]
2. The service uniform for officers was made of wool for winter wear, and cotton for summer wear. EM were issued another wool and cotton uniform for service wear. These were identical to the dress uniforms. The service uniforms were also worn for field duty.
3. Both officers and EM were issued winter and summer garrison caps (furazerka). The winter garrison cap for officers and NCOs was made of cheviot or wool gabardine, while that for privates was of wool. The summer garrison cap for officers, NCOs and privates was of cotton drilling. The Polish uncrowned eagle of silver or white metal was worn on the front edge of the cap, with the rank insignia on the left forefront. A woolen field cap was also issued to officers and EM. It had a cloth strap and buckle on the front of the cap and a cloth visor, stiffened with cardboard.

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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated by "X", Field Distribution by "#")

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4. Officers and NCOs were issued one wool OD shirt, and one short wool gabardine dickie, without back or sleeves, which was for dress wear. A shirt and tie were worn with the roll collar blouse only by officers and NCOs. Privates wore a collarless, white shirt under the roll collar blouse with no portion of it showing.

Recent Changes in the Uniforms

- 25X1X 5. The only change known to me concerns the replacing of the stand-up collar blouse by the roll collar blouse. 25X1X [REDACTED] there were two styles of blouses worn by personnel of the 43d WOP Bn; the roll collar and the stand-up collar types. The roll collar was first introduced in the 43d WOP Bn in 1950, and was gradually replacing the stand-up collar. Approximately 60% of the officers and EM in my unit wore the roll collar blouse, which, according to an officer in my unit, was to eventually replace the stand-up collar blouse altogether.

Change from Winter to Summer Uniforms

6. Winter uniforms were worn from 16 October to 14 April; summer uniforms, from 15 April to 15 October.

Wearing of Uniforms by Civilians

7. Neither officers or EM were allowed to keep their uniforms upon discharge from the service. I never saw civilians wearing parts of army clothing.

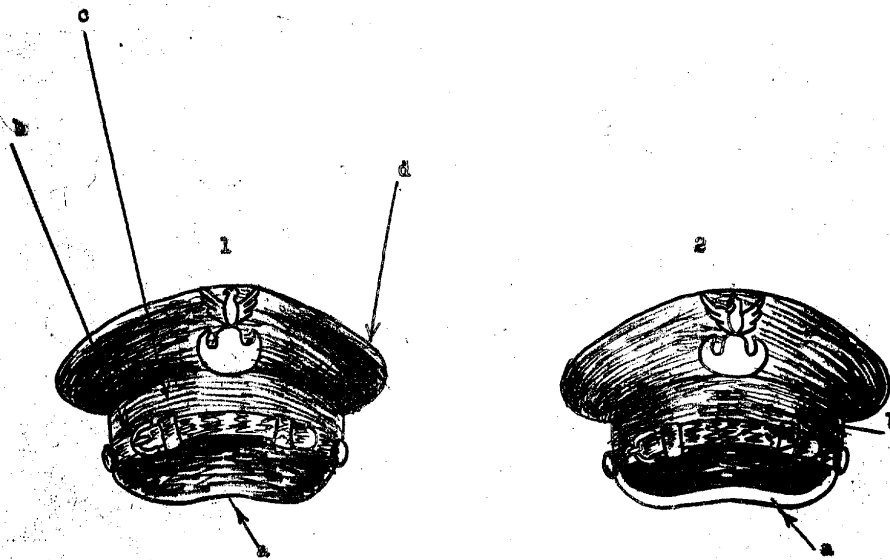
Annexes: A: Polish Officer and EM Service Caps and Blouses  
 B: Polish Collar Flashes, Leggings and Trousers  
 C: Polish Officer and EM Shoulder Loops and Rank Insignia

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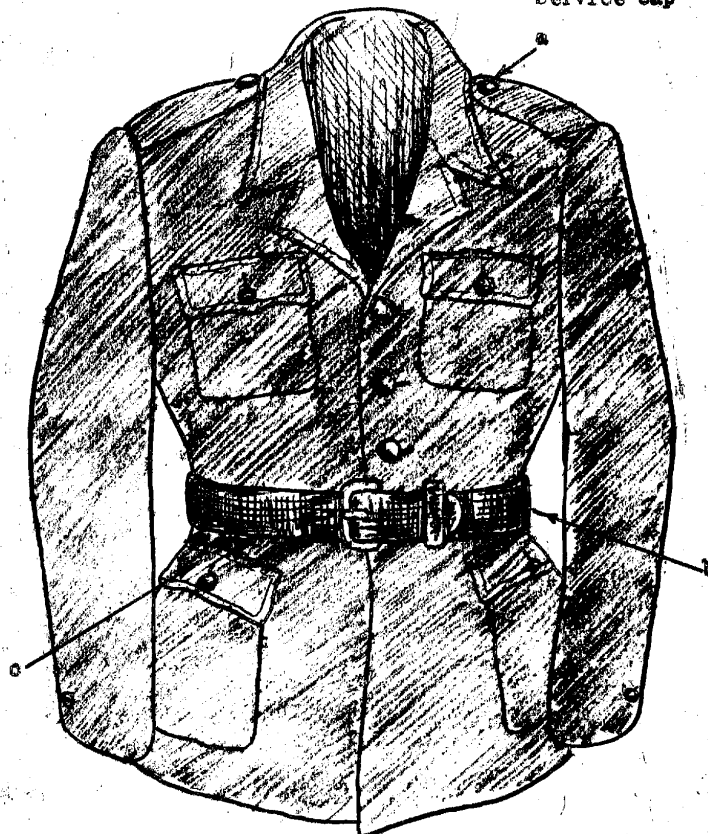
Annex A

Polish Officer and EM Service Caps and Blouses



Privates' Service Cap

Officer and NCO  
Service Cap



Privates' Roll  
Collar Blouse

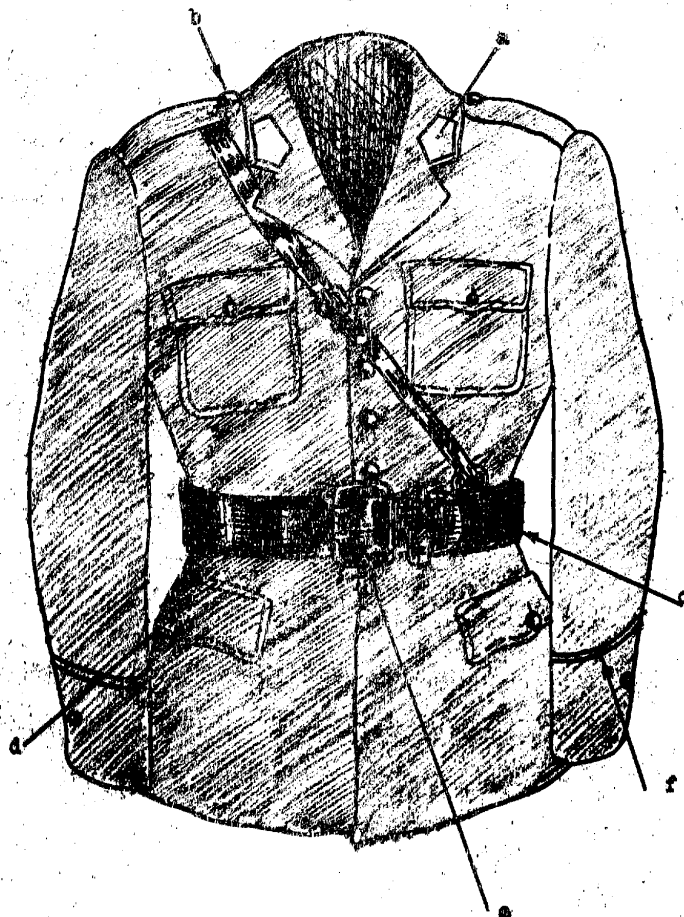
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Polish Officer and NCO Service Caps and Blouses



Officer and NCO Roll  
Collar Blouse

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**SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION**  
**Legend to Annex A**  
**Polish Officer and EM Service Caps and Blouses**

**1. Privates' Service Cap**

- a. Plain visor of black imitation leather
- b. Chin strap of black imitation leather
- c. Hatband of branch of service color (corresponding to color of lapel flashes).
- d. Crown piping of branch of service color

Cap was made of wool and was worn with both the summer and winter uniforms.

**2. Officer and NCO Service Cap**

- a. Edging, 6.4 mm wide, of white metal on visor
- b. Rank insignia of white metal or silver thread

**3. Privates' Roll Collar Blouse, Summer Dress and Service Uniform**

- a. Buttons of white metal or zinc alloy
- b. Belt of black leather
- c. Patch pocket with flap

Blouse worn by WOP personnel was made of OD-colored cotton twill, which bleached after laundering. Officers and NCOs wore a similar blouse with summer service uniform.

**4. Officer and NCO Roll Collar Blouse, Winter Dress Uniform**

- a. Collar flashes of branch of service color (see sketch 1, Annex B, and table below)
- b. Buttons of white metal or zinc alloy
- c. Sam Browne belt of black leather
- d. Slit pocket with flap
- e. Brass buckle
- f. Piping of branch of service color

Blouse was made of wool gabardine.

The blouse worn by officers and NCOs differed from that worn by privates in the cut of the lapels. Privates' lapels flared out to a greater length. The officer and NCO blouse also had a slit, approximately 15 cm long, in the rear skirt portion of the blouse.

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Annex A (Cont'd)

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Source gave the following colors of blouse and lapel flashes, worn by personnel of the various branches of service. The colors for both the roll collar and stand-up collar blouses were the same. The last two columns, shirt and tie color, apply only for the roll collar blouse.

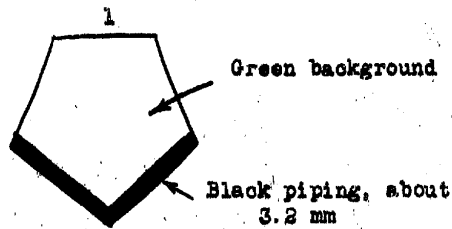
<u>Branch of Service</u>	<u>Blouse Color</u>	<u>Branch of Service, Collar Flash Color</u>	<u>Shirt Color</u>	<u>Tie Color</u>
Infantry	OD	Red	Suntan	Dark green
KEW	OD	Unk	Suntan	Dark green
WOP	OD	Green with black piping	Suntan	Dark green
MO	Dark blue	Unk	Unk	Unk
Air Force	Dark blue	Unk	Unk	Unk
Navy	Navy blue	Unk	Unk	Unk
Service to Poland	OD	Red and white	Unk	Unk
Industrial Guard	Dark blue	Green	Unk	Unk

The color of the hat band on the service cap, crown piping on the cap and piping on sleeve of officer and NCO blouse corresponded to the color of the collar flash.

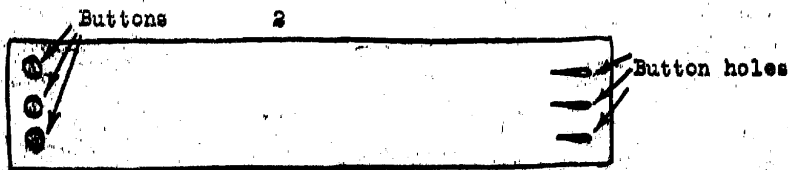
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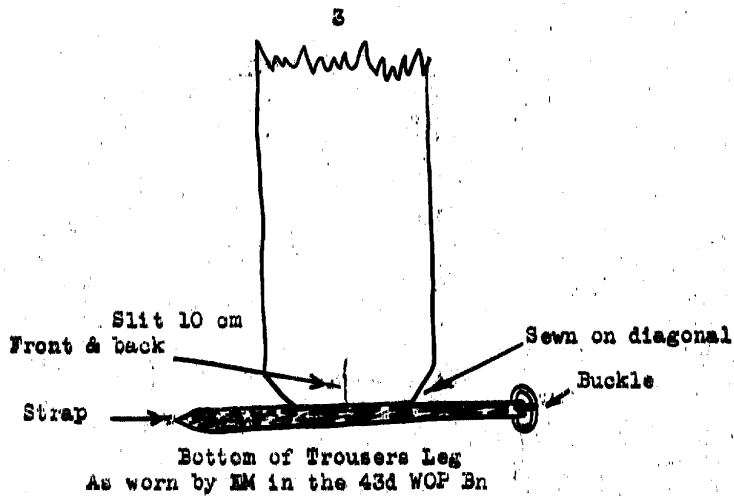
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Annex B  
Polish Collar Flash, Leggings and Trousers



Collar Flash  
Worn by Officers and EM in the 43d WOP Bn



Legging  
Worn by Officers and EM in the 43d WOP Bn



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SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION  
 Legends to Annexes B and C  
Polish Collar Flashes, Leggings and Trousers

1. Collar Flashes

See page 4, Annex A, for a list of colors of collar flashes worn by personnel in the various branches of service.

2. Leggings (Spinaeze)

The leggings were made of cotton drill material and were approximately 20 x 8 cm in size.

3. Trousers

The trousers were made of the same material and were of the same color as the blouse. Officers and NCOs wore trousers with ordinary bottoms. The privates, however, wore roll-bottom trousers, which were tailored to show a lap over effect (see sketch 3). The bottom of the trousers leg had a slit 10 cm long in the front and back, and a belt and buckle to facilitate tightening up the trousers leg. Piping of branch of service color, about 1.6 mm wide, ran the length of the trousers leg along the outside seams.

Polish Officer and IM Shoulder Loops and Rank Insignia

The shoulder loops shown on Annex B were worn by personnel of the 43d WOP Bn, located at RACIBORZ (5005N-1812E).

Shoulder loops - Dark OD-colored cloth

Bars and stripes - Silver-colored cloth with a green felt or cotton edging

Stars - Silver or white metal, mounted on a round patch of green felt or cotton

Buttons - White metal or zinc alloy

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Polish Officer and EM Shoulder Loops and Rank Insignia

Polish

English

Strzelec



Private

Starszy Strzelec



Senior Rifleman

Kapral



Corporal

Plutonowy



Junior Sergeant

Sierżant



Sergeant

Starszy Sierżant



Senior Sergeant

Chorąży



Warrant Officer

Podporucznik



2d Lieutenant

Porucznik



1st Lieutenant

Kapitan



Captain

Major



Major

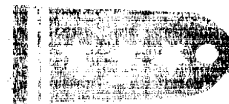
Podpulkownik



Lt Colonel

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Pulkownik



Colonel

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